

UNIVERSITY MISSOURIAN

(Tuesday, May 4, 1915)

STOP KICKING WEATHER MAN

We have been accustomed to saying bad things about the weather and have been loud in our defamation of its changeableness. Now it seems that much of this has been misdirected, judging from an editorial in a recent issue of The Journal of the American Medical Association.

This writer points out that changes, especially rather sudden changes of thermometric and barometric phenomena, are distinct stimulants to the human organism. When the temperature remains more or less constant from day to day, people work and think more slowly. Dr. Ellsworth Huntington of Yale University says that every time a storm passes over a region and is followed by cooler weather, people's efficiency is increased.

We are inclined to think of an unvarying temperature as best for health and strength, but apparently it is not.

After all maybe we shouldn't have said all we did about the weather man. We are a peculiar people. We revile the weather man if there is even so much as the suggestion of a storm, and after it is all over rejoice in the good spirits that follow. Who has not experienced that thrill of good feeling? We like the end all right, but are not always willing to put up with the means. So when a frost comes along and catches part of the fruit, when you get caught in a cold rain without a coat next time, remember that it's all good for you and the other fellow. Your neighbor will be in better spirits next morning, and he will even notice some difference in you.

THE WAR AND CRIPPLES.

A pathetic appeal comes through the war relief clearing house for France, of which Joseph H. Choate is the honorary president and A. Barton Hepburn the active president, for artificial limbs for cripples of northern France. The recent activities have made a new "crop" of cripples, so that artificial legs and arms are badly needed by soldiers who have been wounded in this war. The appeal carries with it the complimentary hint that "the French surgeons consider the American product vastly superior to the best artificial limbs made in France."

Along with the several thousand legless or armless or otherwise afflicted French soldiers, comes the estimate of some officials of the British government that two years of the war will produce 2,640,000 cripples. The calculations assume that England's share of this number of sufferers will be 240,000 soldiers, allowing that Britain puts 2,000,000 men in the field. Think of the waste of men! buried alive, so to speak, in their incapacity or decreased capacity for work. And the figures say nothing of the dead.

A SELF-MADE AMERICAN.

Mane Travica, a Croatian, got off the train at Milwaukee several years ago and made application to become a citizen. When he underwent the examination required by the government before granting naturalization papers he couldn't answer the questions satisfactorily. Later he again failed to convince the court.

The other day he showed up in court and answered every conceivable question put to him. He could read and write the English language, and knew more about the country and its institutions than anyone in the courtroom—or as much. He explained the spirit of the constitution. The court granted the papers and asked how he had been able to learn so much about the affairs of the country.

He explained that his showing on the first two examinations was poor because he had to start to work at 4 o'clock in the morning as a teamster for a brewery and work until 9 o'clock at night. He didn't have time to study. But he wanted to be an American citizen and had given up his occupation for the time being and lived on one meal a day while devoting himself to study.

And still there are those who would stop immigration from the countries

of Southern Europe. There are even those who would place upon the immigrant the blame for our illiteracy problem. Certainly America is better by the coming of such an immigrant as Travica. He is no longer a Croatian.

WOMEN IN JOURNALISM.

The number of women journalists in Columbia this week impress us with the importance of women in journalism. Four women editors will give addresses, and four women prominent as special writers will speak. Tomorrow afternoon the Missouri Women's Press Association will meet. This is an organization of the women writers in Missouri.

Journalism is the one field where the "new woman" cannot claim the pioneerism. Women were engaged in newspaper and literary work long before the feminist movement started. The first newsboy was a woman, Mrs. Strosse. Mrs. Strosse sold the first English newspaper on the streets of London in the year 1623. In 1702 the London Daily Courant, a one leaf newspaper, had a woman editor. In 1827 Mrs. Sarah J. Hale, the first American woman journalist, established the Boston Ladies' Magazine.

Again, literary work is the one profession where women are paid equally as well as men. The quality of the work determines the pay, and the name of a man or a woman at the top of the article makes no difference in the size of the check!

COLUMBIA SKETCHES

A woman with an immense coil of coarse black hair and green eyes, and a most impish looking little girl with huge ears and a tiny flat nose were eating dinner at a boarding house. The woman picked up a bowl of boiled dandelions and said in the most caressing tones to the little freckled-nosed imp at her side, "Angel, want you try some of the greens?"

One Good Story

Certainly.

"Pop!"
"Yes, my son."
"You know my teacher?"
"Yes."
"I mean my day school-teacher?"
"Yes, I know."
"Do you know him pretty well?"
"Yes, pretty well."
"Well, was he ever a little boy?"
"Why, of course he was!"
"I thought so, Pop."
"Why did you think so?"
"Because he asks so many questions."

—Yonkers Statesman.

The Literary Trawler

Youth and Age.

Youth is the time to go flashing from one end of the world to the other both in mind and body; to try the manners of different nations; to hear the chimes at midnight; to see the sunrise in town and country; to be converted at a revival; to circumnavigate the metaphysics; write halting verses; run a mile to see a fire; and wait all day long in the theater to applaud "Hernani." There is some meaning in the old theory about wild oats; and a man who has not had his greensickness and done with it for good, is as little to be depended on as an unvaccinated infant.—R. L. Stevenson.

German Club to Meet Tonight.

The German Club will meet at 8 o'clock tonight in the Y. M. C. A. Building. The program will consist of a reading by Prof. Hermann Alstedt.

Takes Playground Examinations.

Miss Grace E. Reeves, a freshman in the University, has returned from St. Louis, where she took civil service examinations for instructor in playground work.

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The Open Column

Editor The Missourian:—Those who heard the debate Saturday night between Mexico and Chillicothe High Schools on the question of the Minimum Wage were more than likely impressed with the unusual array of economic theories and principles with which the debaters seemed generally familiar. It was all the more surprising because of the undoubted fact that these young men had taken it upon themselves, through an interest, it may be, primarily in debating, to familiarize themselves with the abstract economic principles underlying their question. And it was encouraging, even inspiring, to see the enthusiasm, born of this intelligent familiarity, which characterized the presentation of their arguments.

The writer asked himself: how many boys in the high schools of Missouri are familiar enough with even one of the many pressing economic, social, and political problems of the state and nation to talk intelligently of it before a public gathering. That every boy, and every girl for that matter, in our high schools should have at least an elementary knowledge of the basic economic, social, and political principles which underlie the problems which they will have to face and solve in the next few decades, ought to go without saying. And yet, what has been or is being done to give them the chance to gain such knowledge? The Missouri high school which offers such training is the decided exception—and yet our schools are supposed to train for citizenship, for social efficiency! The percentage of high school graduates who go to higher educational institutions is comparatively small, and of those who do, a still smaller percentage elect courses in Economics, Sociology and Political Science. The large majority go from the high school into the world with no equipment for their civic duties save, perhaps, the sadly inadequate and often harmful opinions and prejudices of parents or elders.

Every high school, great or small, first class or third, ought to offer instruction, of at least an elementary nature, in these fundamental sciences

of human welfare. Until this is done, who shall say that our secondary schools are measuring up to their full responsibility and opportunity for usefulness as a part of our educational system. While principal of a small, second class high school, the writer tried the doubtful experiment of substituting an elementary course in Economics for a year's work in Latin. The results surpassed his "fondest hopes," and fully justified the change. The pupils, both boys and girls, developed an intelligent interest and genuine enthusiasm for the study of many of the problems brought to their attention and their interest went outside of book and study hall to the community. If even so unpretentious a course as this were offered in every high school of Missouri, young men well started on the road to useful, intelligent citizenship, such as those who debated the Minimum wage, would be the rule rather than the exception.—H. K.

Miss Estelle Shoffner Gives Recital.
Miss Estelle Shoffner, a student in Christian College, gave a graduating recital in expression at Christian College last night. She was assisted by Miss Hazel Davis, a student in the vocal music department of the college.



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